

RHYNCHOSIA SENNA VAR. TEXANA, NEW COMBINATION

MADE NECESSARY BY THE DEMOULIN RULE

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Rhynchosia senna Gillies ex Hooker var. **texana** (Torrey & Gray) M. C. Johnston, comb. nov. based on *R. texana* T. & G., Fl. N.A. 1:687. 1840 and the autonymic var. *texana* established by the publication of *R. texana* var. *angustifolia* A. Gray, Pl. Wright. 1:44. 1852.

In John W. Gear's monograph (Memoirs N.Y. Bot. Gard. 31:1-168. 1978) this taxon is named *R. senna* var. *angustifolia* (A. Gray) Gear, a correct combination under the code current in 1978. The destabilizing effects of the Demoulin Rule subsequently adopted by the International Botanical Congress in Sydney are only now becoming widely apparent, as in the present example.

No new biological information has been adduced to support Gear's lowering of *R. texana* to varietal rank, but his judgement, based on herbarium study, seems likely to be correct.